

199—45.9 (476) Level 2 expedited review. A utility shall use the Level 2 review procedure for interconnection requests that meet the Level 2 criteria in subrule 45.7(2). A utility may not impose additional requirements for Level 2 reviews that are not specifically authorized under this rule or rule 199—45.3(476) or subrule 45.5(9) unless the applicant agrees.

45.9(1) The utility shall evaluate the potential for adverse system impacts using the following screens, which shall be satisfied:

a. For interconnection of a proposed distributed generation facility to a radial distribution circuit, the total distributed generation connected to the distribution circuit, including the proposed distributed generation facility, may not exceed 15 percent of the maximum normal load normally supplied by the distribution circuit.

b. For interconnection of a proposed distributed generation facility within a spot network, the proposed distributed generation facility must be inverter-based and use a minimum import relay or other protective scheme that will ensure that power imported from the utility to the network will, during normal utility operations, remain above 1 percent of the network's maximum load over the past year, or will remain above a point reasonably set by the utility in good faith. At the utility's discretion, the requirement for minimum import relays or other protective schemes may be waived and alternative screening criteria may be applied.

c. The proposed distributed generation facility, in aggregation with other generation on the distribution circuit, may not contribute more than 10 percent to the distribution circuit's maximum fault current at the point on the primary line nearest the point of interconnection.

d. Any proposed distributed generation facility, in aggregate with other generation on the distribution circuit, shall not cause any electric utility distribution devices to be exposed to fault currents exceeding 90 percent of their short-circuit interrupting capability. Interconnection of a non-inverter-based distributed generation facility may not occur under Level 2 if equipment on the utility's distribution circuit is already exposed to fault currents of between 90 and 100 percent of the utility's equipment short-circuit interrupting capability. However, if fault currents exceed 100 percent of the utility's equipment short-circuit interrupting capability even without the distributed generation being interconnected, the utility shall replace the equipment at its own expense, and interconnection may proceed under Level 2.

e. When a customer-generator facility is to be connected to 3-phase, 3-wire primary utility distribution lines, a 3-phase or single-phase generator shall be connected phase-to-phase.

f. When a customer-generator facility is to be connected to 3-phase, 4-wire primary utility distribution lines, a 3-phase or single-phase generator shall be connected line-to-neutral and shall be grounded.

g. When the proposed distributed generation facility is to be interconnected on a single-phase shared secondary line, the aggregate generation capacity on the shared secondary line, including the proposed distributed generation facility, may not exceed 20 kVA.

h. When a proposed distributed generation facility is single-phase and is to be interconnected on a center tap neutral of a 240-volt service, its addition may not create an imbalance between the two sides of the 240-volt service of more than 20 percent of the nameplate rating of the service transformer.

i. A distributed generation facility, in aggregate with other generation interconnected to the distribution side of a substation transformer feeding the circuit where the distributed generation facility proposes to interconnect, may not exceed 10 MVA in an area where there are transient stability limitations to generating units located in the general electrical vicinity, as publicly posted by the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPP), the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (MISO), or the Midwest Reliability Organization (MRO).

j. Except as permitted by additional review in subrule 45.9(6), the utility shall not be required to construct any facilities on its own system to accommodate the distributed generation facility's interconnection.

45.9(2) The Level 2 interconnection shall use the following procedures:

a. The applicant submits an interconnection request using the appropriate Standard Application Form in Appendix C (199—45.16(476)) along with the Level 2 application fee.

b. Within ten business days after receiving the interconnection request, the utility shall inform the applicant as to whether the interconnection request is complete. If the request is incomplete, the utility shall specify what materials are missing and the applicant has ten business days to provide the missing information or the interconnection request shall be deemed withdrawn.

c. After an interconnection request is deemed complete, the utility shall assign a review order position based upon the date that the interconnection request is determined to be complete. The utility shall then inform the applicant of its review order position.

d. If, after determining that the interconnection request is complete, the utility determines that it needs additional information to evaluate the distributed generation facility's adverse system impact, it shall request this information. The utility may not restart the review process or alter the applicant's review order position because it requires the additional information. The utility can extend the time to finish its evaluation only to the extent of the delay required for receipt of the additional information. If the additional information is not provided by the applicant within 15 business days, the interconnection request shall be deemed withdrawn.

e. Within 20 business days after the utility notifies the applicant it has received a completed interconnection request, the utility shall:

(1) Evaluate the interconnection request using the Level 2 screening criteria; and

(2) Provide the applicant with the utility's evaluation, including a written technical explanation. If a utility does not have a record of receipt of the interconnection request and the applicant can demonstrate that the original interconnection request was delivered, the utility shall complete the evaluation of the interconnection request within 20 business days after applicant's demonstration.

45.9(3) When a utility determines that the interconnection request passes the Level 2 screening criteria, or the utility determines that the distributed generation facility can be interconnected safely and will not cause adverse system impacts, even if it fails one or more of the Level 2 screening criteria, it shall provide the applicant with the Standard Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement in Appendix D (199—45.17(476)) within three business days of the date the utility makes its determination.

45.9(4) Within 35 business days after issuance by the utility of the Standard Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement, the applicant shall sign and return the agreement to the utility. If the applicant does not sign and return the agreement within 35 business days, the interconnection request shall be deemed withdrawn unless the applicant requests a 15-business-day extension in writing before the end of the 35-day period. The initial request for extension may not be denied by the utility. When the utility conducts an additional review under the provisions of subrule 45.9(6), the interconnection of the distributed generation facility shall proceed according to milestones agreed to by the parties in the Standard Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement.

45.9(5) The Standard Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement is not final until:

a. All requirements in the agreement are satisfied;

b. The distributed generation facility is approved by the electric code officials with jurisdiction over the interconnection;

c. The applicant provides the Standard Certificate of Completion in Appendix B (199—45.15(476)) to the utility. Completion of local inspections may be designated on inspection forms used by local inspecting authorities; and

d. The witness test has either been successfully completed or waived by the utility in accordance with Article 2.1.1 of the Standard Distributed Generation Interconnection Agreement.

45.9(6) Additional review may be appropriate when a distributed generation facility fails to meet one or more of the Level 2 screens. The utility shall offer to perform additional review to determine whether there are minor modifications to the distributed generation facility or electric distribution system that would enable the interconnection to be made safely and so that it will not cause adverse system impacts. The utility shall provide the applicant with a nonbinding estimate for the costs of additional review and the costs of minor modifications to the electric distribution system. The utility shall undertake

the additional review only after the applicant pays for the additional review. The utility shall undertake the modifications only after the applicant pays for the modifications.

45.9(7) If the distributed generation facility is not approved under a Level 2 review, the utility shall provide the applicant with written notification explaining its reasons for denying the interconnection request. The applicant may submit a new interconnection request for consideration under a Level 4 interconnection review. The review order position assigned to the Level 2 interconnection request shall be retained, provided that the request is made by the applicant within 15 business days after notification that the current interconnection request is denied.

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